CLASSIFICATION OFFICE DECISION

Title of publication: Fighters Uncaged

Other known title(s): Not stated

OFLC ref: 1001883.000

Medium: Console Game

Distributor: Monaco Corporation

Country of origin: Not stated

Language: English

Applicant: Secretary for Internal Affairs

Classification:	Objectionable except if the availability of the publication is restricted to persons who have attained the age of 13 years.

Excisions: No excisions recommended

Descriptive note: Contains violence and offensive language.

Display conditions: None

Date of entry in Register: 31 January 2011

Date of direction to issue a label: 28 January 2011

	Components	**Running time**
Game:	Fighters Uncaged	
Total running time:		

Summary of reasons for decision:

The console game was submitted by an Inspector of Publications on behalf of the Secretary for Internal Affairs under s13(1)(b) of the Films, Videos, and Publications Classification Act 1993. The Film and Video Labelling Body cross-rated the game as M from the Australian classification, but the Inspector was concerned that the game contains material that could warrant an age-based restriction.

'Fighters Uncaged' is a street-fighting simulator game in which a player's avatar is controlled using

real world movements (without the need for an external controller). In determining the game's classification, weighting is given to the depictions of violence, which would either be disturbing to children, or have the effect of trivialising violence by presenting it as entertaining and exciting. While the depictions are animated, they involve the repeated and deliberate direction of physical violence at human characters and, as such, would be likely to adversely impact on children. A further injury is if the fighting actions were to be imitated by impressionable children. Teenagers and adults have the maturity to put this material in the context of a fighting simulator game. For these reasons the classification is raised to R13.

The classification of this publication interferes with the freedom of expression as provided by the New Zealand Bill of Rights Act 1990, but this is an outcome that is consistent with Parliament's intention that publications of this type be restricted to an appropriate age group.